

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Applicants amend claim 9 to correct a minor punctuation error, and amend claim 12 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

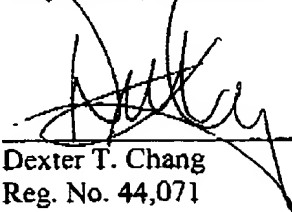
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-11 and 13. Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,948,069 to Kirai et al.

The Examiner and Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Dexter Chang (Reg. No. 44,071), conducted a brief telephone interview on December 6, 2005. Applicants and Mr. Chang thank the Examiner for his time and consideration for such an interview. During the interview, the Examiner confirmed that claim 12 would be allowed if it were amended to be consistent with claims 1 and 10. Applicants, thus, amend claim 12 accordingly. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claim 12.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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DTC:par

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